

The Washington Press

THE ALAMEDA COUNTY PRESS



NILES, ALAMEDA CO., CAL., FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1913.

A TYPICAL GRAZING SCENE IN CALIFORNIA



A typical grazing scene in California, where climate and grass production combine to make the business of cattle-raising for the market, as well as that of dairying, highly remunerative. While there are many sections in this State that are naturally grass country, in others irrigation is resorted to, and in these the rich alfalfa fields, yielding several crops a year according to soil and climate, produce fat beeves and sleek, contented milch cows.



TURNIPS.

Turnips require a rich soil, and grow best on freshly-broken land. They may be sown broadcast after some other crop has been removed,

generally during July or August. They should grow rapidly in rich sandy soil free from fresh manure. About one ounce of seed will be required for 150 feet of drill, and two pounds to the acre, if in drills.—Lee Roy Cady, Horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul.

CITRUS FRUITS

TREATMENT FOR GUMMOSIS OF LEMON TREES.

H. S. Fawcett, Plant Pathologist, State Commission of Horticulture, Whittier, California.

The disease known as gummosis of lemon trees in California, is characterized by the dying of areas of bark and the exudation of large quantities of gum above the bud union. That certain types of this disease can be induced in large healthy trees with cultures of fungi has been shown as the result of a series of inoculations during the past year. It was first found that typical cases of gummosis could be transmitted from diseased to healthy trees by inoculations with bits of discolored bark or wood cut out at the advancing margins of diseased areas. Bits of exuded gum or pieces of tissue near the centers of the diseased areas already permeated with gum, in most cases failed to transmit the disease.

In making a study of lemon gummosis in the orchards, it was found that there were at least two forms of gummosis, one in which the dead bark remained hard without outward evidence of fungi during the progress of the disease, and one in which the dead bark was at first soft with a later development of fungi upon the surface during damp weather. By a series of inoculations with a number of organisms isolated from both types of the disease, it has been discovered that cultures of *Phythyaciopsis citrophthora* Sm. & Sm., the brown rot fungus, are capable of causing the former, and that *Botrytis vulgaris*, the gray fungus, is capable of causing the latter form.

It has long been recognized that the greater amount of gummosis of lemon trees appears to follow unfavorable soil and cultural conditions such as excessive moisture with the soil above the bud union, poorly drained or aerated land, etc., and methods of prevention have been worked out that have been quite successful in the hands of the best growers. These methods of prevention, such as keeping the soil from above the bud union, keeping it dug up round the crown, putting in lime in heavy soils, avoiding excessive moisture, using sour stock of heavy soils, planting high budded trees and planting them high for new orchards are extremely important. These precautions will largely avoid the conditions favorable for the growth and the infection of the fungi.

The brown rot fungus lives in the soil, especially in heavy soils, and its development is favored by excessive moisture, and infection of the lemon bark is favored by the bud union being buried, or kept damp.

There are, however, certain cases constantly occurring in spite of all that can be done in this way. These may be treated as follows:

The treatment for the gummosis caused by these fungi is still somewhat in the experimental stage. All that can be said at present is that in several groves where the Bordeaux paste was used over a year ago the results appear very promising. This applies only to the lemon gummosis. It is too soon to say definitely as to the orange gum disease (Scaly Bark), except that two growers have told me since hearing of the Bordeaux paste treatment that they had used a somewhat similar mixture two years ago with good results and no injury to the trees.

We can say definitely that Bordeaux is one of the best fungicides known and that in a proportion even stronger than that given here, it has resulted in no harm to the bark of trees.

Before applying the paste on lemon trees the bark that is dead to the wood should be removed to allow the Bordeaux to get in to kill out the infection. In case the outer bark is infected over a large area and the inner or cambium is still alive, the outer layer may be scraped off with a curved sharp tool, made on purpose for this work, leaving the cambium covered by inner bark still attached. In this way the infection is killed and a new bark is built up under the Bordeaux. One must expect the gum to run out freely for several weeks or months after treatment. One should watch for the formation of new, healthy tissue, rather than the amount of gum that may run out after treatment. The gum that has formed under the bark beyond where any fungus has gone will continue to drain out. The gum itself does not, as a rule, have any infectious principle in it. The fungus is in the diseased bark at the junction of the live and dead tissue. The fungus does not manufacture the gum, but causes the tree to produce it from its own products.

The formula for the Bordeaux paste is as follows:

One pound of blue stone dissolved in one gallon of water in a wooden or earthen vessel by hanging it in the top in a sack.

Two pounds of unslaked lime, slaked

in about one-half gallon of water.

Stir together when cool, making a mixture about the consistency of whitewash. Apply with a brush.

This may also be applied to healthy bark as a preventative against new infections.

June 20, 1913.

GROWING CITRUS FRUITS.

The growing of the finest citrus fruits is a horticultural accomplishment not surpassed in any line of the art. There is a very long series of conditions, from the choice of the site to the delivery of the packages of perfect fruit to the consumer, which must be met successfully. If any link in the chain is broken, first place can not be attained. Therefore, while every one willing to pay the price, either in labor or dollars, can grow oranges and grapefruit, only he who is so constituted as to derive pleasure from exercising his mental faculties to the fullest extent can produce fruit of the finest quality. Good judgment must be exercised in the choice of the stock, the bud, the soil, and the location of the crop, in the treatment of fungus and insect diseases, in picking and packing the fruit, and in selecting a market for its disposal; but there are very few agricultural occupations that give as remunerative a return for the mental outlay.

ORANGEADE.

Impregnate a few lumps of loaf sugar with the oil of orange by rubbing into them as much as you can readily from the rind of four oranges. Roll as many oranges as you design to use, squeeze the juice, allowing eight to one quart of water. Throw the skins into half a pint of water as you squeeze them, let them stand a short time, press them a little, and add this water to the juice. The very highest flavored oranges should be selected, and if not found sour enough to impart an agreeable acid, lemon juice may be added, with the caution that it must not be used freely enough to impair the distinct flavor of the orange. The oil should only be slightly rubbed from the oranges. Allow about one-half pound of sugar to the quart of orangeade.

The successful results attending co-operative dairying in England were made the subject of a report to the Department of Commerce and Labor by B. F. Chase, United States Consul at Leeds. The report shows that the distributing depots at Leeds, Hull, Scarborough, and other places, handles more than 400,000 gallons of milk annually, besides large quantities of other dairy products, its total business amounting to \$120,000 a year.

More than 11,000,000 acres of land in Italy are devoted to wine grape cultivation

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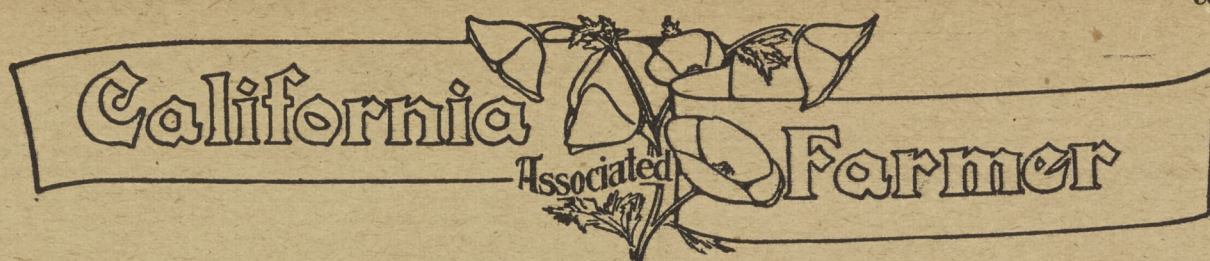
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THE DRY SEASON AN OPPORTUNITY.

It might be well for country people generally whose growing crops of whatever kind have been affected by drought, to forget for a time the unpleasant shortening of the results of their labor and consequent lack of money to accomplish contemplated improvements or investments, and study the results of lack of rainfall upon tree, vine, or plant, and discover if possible what methods of irrigation or cultivation might have lessened the injury or perhaps have escaped it altogether.

What effect, if any, did the preparation of the seed bed or time of seeding have upon the growth of the grain?

Would a different method or time of plowing, or cultivating the orchard have conserved the little moisture that fell, to a degree that would have materially increased the crop of fruit or kept the trees in good health and ready for next season's production of fruit?

What should have been done in the garden to cause the lettuce, carrots, beets and onions to sprout and grow when they did not?

If a little protection would have saved many tender plants that succumbed in the cold and dryness, would not the same protection be advisable and prove beneficial every year?

These subjects are not only good to think about, but also good to discuss with your neighbors and friends, or perhaps in the meetings of your improvement clubs, at social gatherings, or the grange.

That dry seasons serve a useful purpose we do not doubt any more than that seasons of "hard times", earthquakes, fire, in fact all things that disturb the equanimity of life are lessons for future benefit.

APPLES IN CALIFORNIA.

It is a little strange, but nevertheless true, that California does not get full credit for her standing as an apple growing state among fruit growers generally.

California apples have been "knocked" in past years by many who have visited our state and returned to their homes in the east. Just why this should be is a little hard to determine unless by reason of the fact that California produces such a variety of fruits of high quality, that residents of apple growing states are a little loath to give her credit for growing apples of high quality also.

That our apples are not surpassed in quality has been so often demonstrated that repetition is irksome, but our output is not so small in quantity either when we consider that up to 1911 the Pajaro valley alone produced more apples than Oregon and Washington combined.

However, as a state, we do not expect to compete in the race for quantity with other states where the apple must necessarily be the leading fruit, while we produce largely many varieties, but in quality we do not admit that we take second place.

PARCELS POST RATES LOWERED—WEIGHT LIMIT RAISED.

The news that Postmaster General Burleson has made some changes reducing rates and increasing weights of parcels carried in the mails, to go into effect August 15, will be good news to farmers generally.

The post office department is fast becoming a servant of the whole people and country people will surely appreciate the advantages of an improved parcels post.

With our letters and all parcels up to 20 pounds weight delivered at our gates, farm life becomes more desirable.

PLANTING A WALNUT GROVE.

We have an anxious inquiry from a lady who wishes to plant a walnut grove and as she expresses it, "is all at sea" as to how to proceed.

Methods of planting, distance apart, etc., are fairly well decided upon, all of which vary somewhat with location and soil but the variety to plant is most puzzling.

Questions of vigor and size of trees when in full bearing, productiveness, quality of nuts, freedom from blight, all enter into this problem and to the person of no experience in walnut growing are confusing. However, there is a solution, not only for our questioner but for all who propose planting walnut trees, and that is to plant native California black walnut trees where they are to grow. One or two-year-old trees are preferred. The cutting of the tap roots does not injure them in the least, as has been abundantly proven by many plantings of such trees in California.

The next step is to urge them to grow. Irrigate if needful and cultivate thoroughly. In four or five years strong, healthy native trees, well branched with trunks as hardy as an oak and roots that defy disease or oak fungus will be the result.

In five years any ordinary student of varieties, bearing qualities, nut qualities, and market qualities will be able to choose a variety that when grafted on these five-year-olds will grow into a splendid, hardy, productive and profitable walnut grove.

As the native black walnut root is superior to any other, so is the native black walnut trunk superior to any other.

No time is lost by this method. On the contrary, the extreme hardness of the native walnut trunk, enabling it to resist sunburn, facilitates the growth of the trees.

SHARPEN THE DOMESTIC CUTLERY.

One of the uses to which the farm grindstone should be put (and no farm should be without an up-to-date grindstone) is to keep the domestic cutlery in order to do the work for which it is intended.

The farmer and fruit grower knows that he cannot do good work with dull tools. "The ax, the plow, the harrow and spade" all require sharpening at times! also the hoe and the pruning shears. Methods of sharpening vary with the user and often a hoe is sharpened on the wrong side. But the domestic cutlery is not usually considered of enough importance to be sharpened, hence there is trouble in making sandwiches or cutting the cake because the bread knife is dull or the carving of a fowl or leg of lamb is difficult because of a dull carver, and the dressmaking or hair cutting is a hard task because "the shears will not cut."

Very often shears of all kinds, including tin shears, may be made to cut smoothly by rubbing with the thumb from heel to point in the direction of the cutting edge.

In line with the possession of other labor saving devices in the house a full set of knives and shears are essential to make the housewife's duties pleasant.

DRIED SWEET CORN.

Every farmer should raise a patch of sweet corn. Better yet, several patches in rotation, so that during the entire summer and autumn the family may have an abundant supply of this most delicious and nutritious food, while the cow will enjoy no less the suckers and the corn fodder after the ears are gathered.

For earliest plant "Peep of Day" or some other small-eared variety, planting at the same time some of the larger mid-season varieties and a little later for main crop Stowell's Evergreen and then plant additional rows every two weeks. A quantity of surplus ears should be used for drying. Prepare the same as for the table, cutting off the cob. Put in a pan and place in the oven until hot through, then put out in the sun to dry. A day or two of hot sunshine will cure it perfectly. Store in flour sacks.

One hundred and ten cars of cantaloupes and 44 cars of watermelons are the products of 160 acres near Calexico, making a net profit of nearly \$300 per acre.

A FERTILIZER FOR HEAVY SOILS.

I have a 40 acre orchard of apricots and several varieties of plums, some of the trees do not produce good shipping size fruit. I intend trying a fertilizer. Will you compound one suitable? Some parts of the orchard is adobe and is hard to cultivate; during the dry season it bakes and cracks badly. Do you think the use of lime on this soil would help to loosen it up? Other portions of the orchard is inclined to be a little light, and in some places gravelly.

Subscriber, Vacaville.

From "Subscriber's" description of his orchard it is evident that a fertilizer is needed not only to secure better tilth, but to encourage better growth of wood. Lime alone will help to mellow the soil and thereby conserve moisture, thus enabling the rootlets to obtain from the soil the elements necessary to produce larger and better fruit.

Potash would also help and the nitrogen necessary would probably be secured best by the growth of vetch or some other legume as a winter cover crop and plowing under at the proper time.

At the same time a heavier growth of vetch may be obtained by the use of Chili nitrates.

HOW TO PLANT AND HOW TO TAKE CARE OF LIPPIA.

Have your ground well worked and pulverized, leveled and rolled, if possible when you plant lippia grass. No manure recommended.

Lippia seeds very sparingly or not at all. Anyhow, the best and quickest way to propagate it is by planting small sods (of two square inches) at a distance of one, two or more feet apart, as one may prefer. The closer planted the sooner the ground will be carpeted.

Each small sod contains many joints, and from each joint runners and roots will soon appear that will branch in every direction, and will anchor it in the ground, rooting again as they run.

Press and firm well the sods in the ground, and give sufficient water to start them to growing. Occasional rolling will be of advantage. Frequent walking over it will have the same effect.

If the tiny lilac flowers (much sought after by the bees) are not desired, they can easily be removed with an ordinary lawn mower.

During the dry season water must be given, with a lawn sprinkler or otherwise, at intervals as the local conditions will suggest.

Lippia repens has come to stay, because:

1. It thrives in any soil, no matter how poor.
2. It rapidly covers the ground with a very dense matting.
3. It will smother all weeds in a short time.
4. The more trodden upon the better it grows.
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6. It saves the trouble of mowing.
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8. It can easily be established on sloping grounds.
9. It will never become a "pest" difficult to eradicate, having no underground runners.
10. The correctness of the above statements has been fully proved by the experience of ten years, since it was introduced by Miss E. F. Franceschi, Santa Barbara, Cal.

Farmers are fighting grasshoppers with fire near Santa Rosa.

Imperial Valley has a record breaker crop of cantaloupes and the cotton crop has doubled over last year.

Orange growers near Willows will plant great numbers of eucalyptus and cypress trees for wind brakes.

Only once in the last ten years has the world's crop of prunes been as light as now, says the California Cured Fruit Exchange.

The Pajaro valley is harvesting a record crop of apricots and hay; both of fine quality.

All prune growing districts in California seem to have suffered from the heat of Friday, July 11.

Sebastopol and Watsonville are both preparing for their annual apple shows. The latter will be held October 6 to 11, and the former, beginning August 18.

Hop picking will begin about August 15 in the vicinity of Chico. A bumper crop is on the vines and many pickers will find work in the hop fields.

DYNAMITE IN THE ORCHARD.

Blowing Out Stumps, Trees, Etc.

By Ralph Shannon.

In blowing out stumps and trees no rule can be given as to how much powder to use, as it depends entirely on the soil and kind of stump or tree. Some people think that the force of dynamite is more downward than upward, but such is not the case, the force is the same in all directions, but like a breechy cow breaking a fence, she is not going to break it where it is strong if she can find a weak spot. The same with dynamite, the force is going any direction where the least resistance is, so the harder the ground is under the tree or stump, the less powder it will take to blow them out; so the only way to find out is to try a few. In blowing out large stumps or trees Judson powder is the best, exploding it with dynamite as usual, but place some more dynamite on the bottom of the Judson so when the Judson explodes it will explode the dynamite on the bottom, and as the dynamite is quicker than the Judson it will throw nearly the whole force of the Judson upward giving great lifting power, so the only rule is to get the powder as near under the center of the stump as possible and should be done when the ground is wet, as wet ground has greater resistance than dry ground, at the same time it offers less resistance to the roots of stumps or trees, also the hole is easier punched.

To help an old orchard with powder I think the method that will give the quickest results is to bore a hole down five feet from the trees on two sides and three feet deep, put in one-half stick of one and one-quarter inch powder and tamp hard to the top.

MARKETS OF LARGE CITIES.

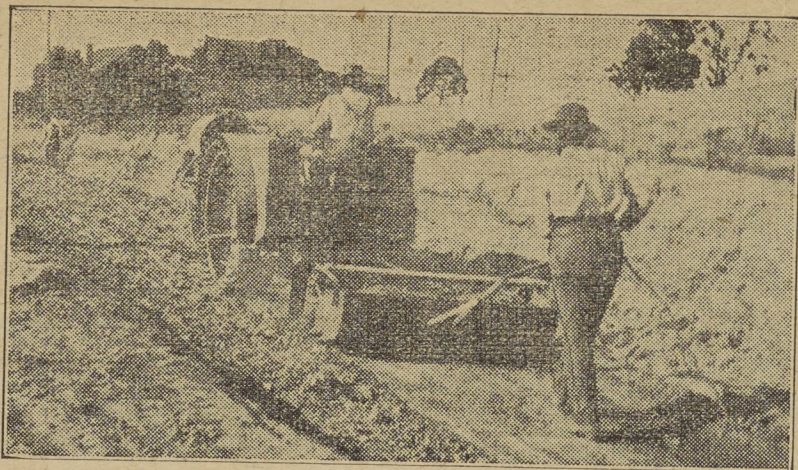
A city market is a very interesting place to visit, from several points of view. The description of one in a city of 150,000 inhabitants is here given. From 300 to 700 wagons are at this market every morning. The market covers ten acres. The land is divided into "streets," which are cement walks along which the wagons are backed. These streets are divided into stalls, which are seven feet wide; there are marks on the cement where the wagon wheels must be. By placing the wagons properly, in this way, it allows a passageway between the wagons. Every class of growers and every class of buyers has a place of its own. The hucksters, grocers, fruit growers and truck growers each have a place, and each must stay on its own street. A grower is allowed, however, to bring both fruit and vegetables.

A rental is charged for the stalls, the renter who pays so much a year having his permanent place. Part of the stalls are covered and these, being the more desirable, bring a larger price than the open stalls.

All fees and rents go into the city treasury. The receipts for five months last year were: April, \$2263.90; May, \$1046.50; June, \$1796.95; July, \$01.75; August, \$1023.05. The money for the salaries of those who have charge of the market, and other expenses, is appropriated out of the city treasury. As these expenses do not equal the receipts, the city makes a nice little profit.

The market opens at 4 o'clock in the morning, and most of the wholesale sales are made before 5:30. This is an advantage to the growers, because it allows them to dispose of their produce promptly. The wagons begin to arrive on the market soon after midnight.

The fruit and vegetables usually are in excellent condition for they are picked the afternoon before. The early market is mostly a wholesale proposition. Some fruit and vegetables are sold at retail in small quantities, but as the grocers and hucksters have the retail trade well in hand, they get most of the business. Of course this early selling is of advantage to dealers because it allows them to get their supplies in plenty of time for the day's retail trade. Most city people prefer to sleep and call up their grocer by phone and give their order for the day than arise very early and go down to the market, even though it might greatly reduce the cost of living, but through these markets the consumers get their fruit and vegetables at a reasonable rate from the middleman.



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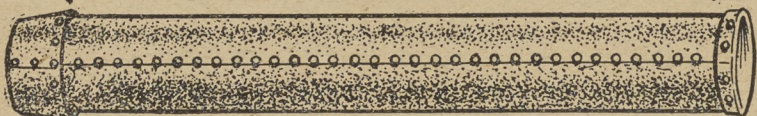
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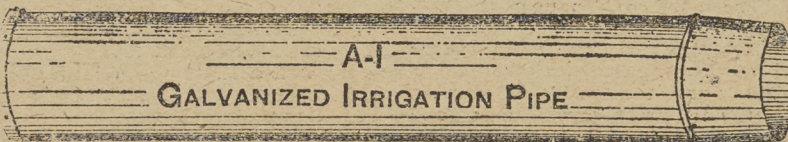
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Especially attention is called to the fact that a liberal increase has been made in classifications and premiums on Dairy Products.

The Poultry and Pigeon Department has been revised and an increase has been made in premiums. In Pigeon Department no First Premium will be less than \$1.00, no Second premium less than 50c.

A classification has been made for Market Culinary Animals, providing premiums for Rabbits and Hares.

There has also been established, Boy's Judging Classes and the sum of \$400.00 set aside for premiums for boys who prove the best Judges of Live Stock.

Premiums are provided for the best displays of Indian Corn and Spineless Cactus.

Premium List is now being prepared. Send in your name now to be placed on the mailing list.

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A. L. SCOTT, President, Box 592, Sacramento, California.

GOOD ROADS

GOOD COUNTY ROADS PAY FOR THEMSELVES.

The increase of land values where roads are improved is clearly shown by the report published below. The data given will be of interest to all owners of rural lands.—Editor Farmer.

The direct effect that changing bad roads into good roads has upon land value and the general economic welfare of a community is shown in several concrete illustrations gathered by the United States department of agriculture. The department has just issued a statement on the subject, based upon a mass of information gathered by the office of public roads, which is making a special study of the economic effect of road improvement in the country. According to data gathered, where good roads replace bad ones, the values of farm lands bordering on the roads increase to such an extent that the cost of road improvement is equalized, if not exceeded. The general land values, as well as farm values, show marked advances, following the improvement of roads.

Among the illustrations cited by the department are the following:

In Lee county, Virginia, a farmer owned 100 acres between Ben Hur and Jonesville, which he offered to sell for \$1800. In 1908 this road was improved, and, although the farmer fought the improvement, he has since refused \$3000 for his farm. Along this same road a tract of 188 acres was supposed to have been sold for \$6000. The purchaser refused the contract, however, and the owner threatened to sue him. After the road improvement, and without any improvement upon the land, the same farm was sold to the original purchaser for \$9000.

In Jackson county, Alabama, the people voted a bond issue of \$250,000 for

road improvement and improved 24 per cent of the roads. The census of 1900 gives the value of all farm lands in Jackson county at \$4.90 per acre. The selling value at that time was from \$6 to \$15 per acre. The census of 1910 places the value of all farm lands in Jackson county at \$9.79 per acre, and the selling price is now from \$15 to \$25 per acre. Actual figures of increased value following road improvement are shown.

As the roads in no way effect soil fertility or quality of the farm, advances are due essentially to the decrease in the cost of hauling produce to market or shipping point. Farms are now regarded as plants for the business of farming, and any reduction in their profits through unnecessarily heavy costs for hauling on bad roads naturally reduces their capitalization into values. With reduced costs for hauling, profits are increased; with the result that the farm plant shows satisfactory earnings on a higher capital value.

The automobile also has begun to be an important factor in increasing rural values where good roads are introduced.

Immigration is particularly marked where road conditions are favorable; in fact, the figures of the department seem to indicate that good roads indirectly increase the demand for rural property; and the price of farm land, like that of any commodity, is ruled by the relations between demand and supply.

The earth road will doubtless be used in rural communities for many years, because of its low first cost. The ever-recurring problem of upkeep on such a road can be solved very largely by the use of the split-log drag.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

THINNING VEGETABLES.

Because of limited space the rows of vegetables in a home garden are usually close together, and often the seed is planted thickly in order to have a large yield. This is a mistaken idea, as the plants cannot develop to their full size if crowded. Vegetables grown for their roots should be given as much space as a mature plant needs. The very early radishes which are ready for the table in three or four weeks can be thinned out as used, but the larger varieties should be allowed two or more inches of space. Beets can be thinned out and used for greens, giving those left to mature, about three inches of space.

Plants grown for their foliage, as lettuce, parsley, and spinach need more room than those whose roots are edible; and those which bear fruit, need plenty of room in which to develop the fruit bearing branches.

Seeds of vining plants, as cucumber, melons, squash, and pumpkin are usually planted thickly, as the early bugs and cutworms take some of the plants. Only three or four should be allowed to grow in each hill. Nearly all plants can be transplanted, some of them, as lettuce and parsley, seeming to grow faster after being reset than before. The best guide as to the room needed is a good reliable seed catalogue or garden text book, which usually give the size of a fully developed plant.

Transplanting is almost entirely done in May and June—as soon as the seedlings can be handled with the thumb and finger. A good tool to use is a sharp pointed stick about the size of a pencil. The plant can be loosened with this without disturbing those that are to be left in the row. It is also a good tool for making the hole for the plant. For larger plants, as those transplanted from hot beds or cold frames a trowel or large dibber will be useful. Keep all the soil possible about the roots, and firm the soil around the ones left in the row as well as those reset.

Do not let the roots dry out, and shade the reset plants for three or four days if the sun is bright.—Alice McFeely, University Farm, St. Paul.

The trailing nasturtiums are among the easiest annuals to grow and will give a supply of flowers the whole season.

Grit to be of any use to the fowl must be grit. It must have sharp corners and cutting edges.

If you cannot provide a dip for swine, give them a spray. The boys can spray hogs without any trouble.

VEGETABLES AS REMEDIES.

The average citizen of our country takes entirely too much "dope" for the good of his system. By giving a little attention to his diet many doctor's bills might be saved. Many vegetables and fruits have a distinct medical value and would contribute materially to our health if we would use them as food. In this list the following fruits and vegetables are especially valuable:

Apples, carrots and Brazil nuts are excellent for sufferers from constipation.

Asparagus stimulates the kidneys. Bananas are beneficial to sufferers from chest complaints.

Beets are fattening and good for people who want to put on flesh. So are potatoes.

Celery and onions are nerve tonics.

Cranberries are a stringent and correct the liver when it is suffering from inaction caused by overeating.

Dates are exceedingly nourishing and also prevent constipation.

Grape juice is a laxative, but the skin and seeds are likely to cause constipation.

Honey is a good substitute for cod liver oil.

Lemon juice is excellent as a gargle for sore throat, but should not be swallowed.

Lettuce has a soothing effect on the nerves and is excellent for sufferers from insomnia.

Onions are conducive to sleep, quiet the nerves and are good for colds.

Parsnips, like sarsaparilla, are good for the blood and tone up the system.

Spinach has great aperient qualities, and is better than medicine for constipation.

Tomatoes are good for a torpid liver, but should be avoided by gouty people.

Water cress is an excellent blood purifier.

Starting Plants.

Boxes in windows is an excellent way of starting plants for early setting, though it must necessarily be on a small scale. For a small garden a good supply may thus be procured. In sowing the seeds, avoid putting them in too deep; a half inch is ample for all, and a less depth is better for the small seeds. Press the soil closely around the seed.

Plant Fertilizers.

Two or three ounces of guano to a gallon of water is a proper proportion for house plants. Keep the mixture well stirred, as the guano, not being actually dissolved by the water, settles to the bottom. Save the soot that falls from the chimneys when they are cleaned. A pint of soot to a pailful of water will make a liquid manure of the greatest value for flower beds and plants of all kinds.

Cut Back the Geraniums.

But few persons cut them back enough. If the stalks are cut back to within two or three inches of the surface of the ground, numerous healthy side shoots will put out and grow vigorously.

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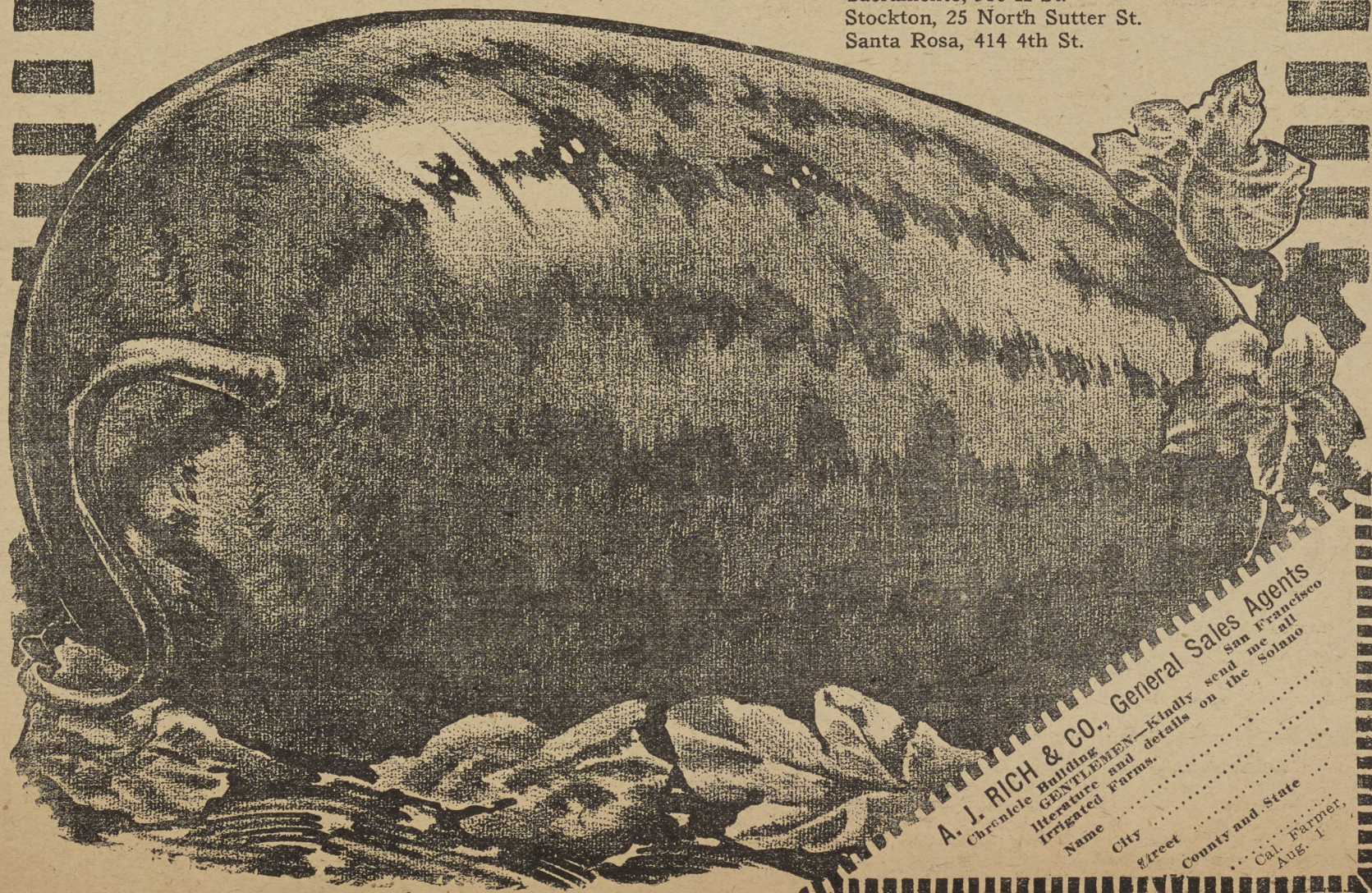
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Marketing Eggs From Farm

Certain Rules to Be Adhered to in Successful Handling of Poultry.

By N. E. CHAPMAN.

The common causes of loss may be classed under several heads: Small eggs, dirty eggs, breakage, shrunken and rotten eggs, mouldy and flavored eggs. Eggs must weigh two ounces or over to be classed as No. 1. Lighter eggs should be consumed on the farm rather than be sold at a reduced price. Like eggs too small, eggs abnormally large or misshaped should be used at home, for such will be easily crushed in the case, and are always classed as "seconds."

About five eggs out of each hundred marketed are classed as "dirties." These are stained, smeared, muddy, or covered with filth. The odor of whatever soils the egg will soon penetrate the shell and flavor the contents. Market eggs should never be washed, as they take odors more rapidly and soon are stale. Eggs may be washed, however, for use at home. Eggs carried to market in bran are generally classed as "dirties." The bran adheres to the shell, and is difficult to remove.

It is estimated that 8 per cent of the eggs are broken in moving from producer to consumer. Checked, dented or leaking eggs soon sour, and must be marketed at greatly reduced prices. If checked or broken on the way to market they should be taken home for use in the family.

Eggs should be gathered often and kept in a cool, dry place until the first opportunity for marketing. Broody hens should be taken from the nests at once, and confined by themselves, unless needed for hatching purposes. After the hatching season is over, all roosters should be sold or confined, and not allowed to run with the laying flock during the summer. Hens will lay more eggs, and be in better health without the male birds. Infertile eggs are far superior for preserving, shipping and storing.

Sixty-five per cent of the contents of a fresh egg is water; and because of a porous shell this evaporates rapidly under most conditions, resulting in loss of weight and value. As soon as the newly-laid egg cools, an air-cell appears, which increases in size as the contents shrink from evaporation. Shrunken eggs may be detected by "candling", or by gently shaking when held to the ear. When the "gurgle" of the contents is distinct, the egg is questionable. The membrane of such eggs is often ruptured in handling and shipping, resulting in "frothy" eggs, of poor quality. In the summer, eggs should receive the same care and consideration as sweet milk and cream, and be marketed daily, if possible. They should not be exposed to draughts of warm air, and should be protected from the rays of the sun and moisture, in handling, marketing and shipping.

Moisture is the main cause of rotten eggs. Nests on the ground or in wet straw, together with damp cellars and moist "fillers" in egg-cases, are mainly responsible for this condition. A fresh egg will absorb odors as readily as fresh milk. Mustiness or mouldy growth in egg-cases or fillers will taint the egg and lower its quality. Eggs should not be stored in musty cellars, or in rooms with fruit, vegetables or fish. The chickens should never be allowed to drink filthy water, be fed musty grain or strong-flavored vegetables, as onions and garlic, nor given access to decaying meat or substances that will flavor the product and impair its quality.



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POULTRY GENERALIZING.

Each year the poulterer better understands the care of poultry, knows their wants and has discovered how to keep them comfortable. The comfortable hens are the ones that do the laying.

About 30 years ago when poultry farming was young, as a business, a cry arose that it would not be long before there would be such a surplus of stock that prices would go tumbling, but notwithstanding that there are still successful plants today to every one 30 years ago and the demand not half reached!

With the increase of supply came the increase of demand and today we are no nearer meeting the demand than we ever were.

However, there is a change in the market which must not be lost sight of. Almost anything in the poultry line sells, but the choicest prices are alone given to the "fancy goods".

The word "fancy" implies more than appearance. It means also quality. Poultry and egg buyers are becoming particular, but they are willing to pay for their goods. If they want the brown eggs they will not take white, and if they prefer the white the brown ones offer no temptation. The market today demands choice, plump, fresh stock. Have you got it? If so, the market is waiting for you.

We have today quite a number of breeds, and all, to a certain extent, are practical. But they will not, any one of them, fill all the purposes, therefore, it is necessary for a man to select only such breeds as will best serve his customers.

Of the entire list of breeds none will meet the demands of Americans so satisfactorily as do the American varieties and in this class the most popular are the Wyandottes, the Plymouth Rocks, with the Rhode Island Reds closely following. Also our American strains of Light Brahmas and Leghorns.

The Brahmas belong to the Asiatic class as a breed, but the Light Brahma as bred by our people is so different from that bred in England that one would hardly suppose them to be of the same family. This is also true of the Leghorns, which belong to the Mediterranean class.—M. K. Boyer.

GREASE THE ROOSTS

It is probable that most poultrymen and farmers who read these lines have been contending with lousy hen roosts as long as they have been in the poultry business, and the poor hens have been tormented for generations. This is considered as a sort of "emancipation proclamation" for all such.

It is generally understood that grease of any kind is fatal to a louse, as well as to many other kinds of insects. Kerosene will kill them, but it has to be applied frequently since it will not "stay put." Eternal vigilance has been universally believed to be the price of freedom from mites in the hen roost and brooder. Their habits, like the bedbug, are nocturnal. They feed at night, and hide during the day in the nearest crack or crevice to furnish "seed" for next summer's crop. If this "seed" gets caught in a pot of grease the first night he starts out on a foraging expedition that is the end of him.

Moral: Smear the perches with grease that will fill the pores of the wood and all cracks and crevices, and stay there and see to it that the hens spend the night sitting on the greasy perches, and nowhere else. Plain tallow (either beef or mutton) just fills the bill. It should be melted and applied while hot some mild day in the month of March each year, with a paint brush. Turn the perches over and paint all four sides, particularly where they rest on the supports. Plant the supports at the same time, and also some of the siding, etc., nearest the perches. This one application will be sufficient for a whole year.

When building a new hen house, always grease the perches before introducing the hens, at any time of the year. The hen's feet will wear some of it from the top surface of the perch, but neither summer's heat nor winter's cold will remove it from the pores of the wood or the small crevices where the lice seek to hide.

This is no idle theory. I have proved it out for the last four years with hens by the thousand, in roosts that had previously been lousy in many cases for years. It has given me absolute freedom from the pests.—C. E. Mapes, in American Poultry Advocate

ADVICE TO POULTRYMEN.

The two farmers' bulletins relating to the poultry industry recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, entitled "Hints to Poultry Raisers" and "Important Poultry Disease," present to poultrymen a very concise and, at the same time, comprehensive statement as to the difficulties encountered and the best methods of overcoming them.

The selection of a breed suited to the requirements of the owner, the artificial and natural incubation and brooding, the construction of houses and fixtures, methods of feeding, egg production and marketing are all covered in short, terse, convincing statements in the first mentioned bulletin.

The second supplements this information and the other advice as to the prevention of lice and mites and the treatment of common diseases; with a full and detailed description of the important diseases affecting fowls and the remedies which have been found effective.

Contagious diseases and the larger parasites are the most important obstacles which the poultryman has to overcome to keep his birds in a healthy condition. Preventive measures are the best and also the cheapest, because, no matter how large the first cost, the great loss inflicted by an epidemic in which a number of birds may die, is saved, and also the indirect but even greater loss, which the weakened condition and loss of product cause, is eliminated.

There are, of course, cases in which medicines may be advantageously given or applied to sick fowls, but generally speaking, it is better to kill all sick birds and thus avoid the spread of disease to many other birds in the flock. Then, a sick bird is an indication that it is more susceptible to disease than the other birds of the flock, which, to be strong and healthy, must be relieved of the menace of delicate and susceptible members.

Even with flocks practically free from disease germs and parasites, it requires the utmost watchfulness and care to maintain them in that condition. There are a number of reasons given for this, and mature and experience-bought advice is given as to preparation and maintenance of poultry houses and yards free from the germs and parasites which so often turn a prosperous business into another of the many failures at "poultry raising for a profit."

KEEP THE HENS IN GOOD FLESH.

Hens that are kept thin in flesh will not make good egg records. Professor Rice of Cornell, had a lot of hens killed and their laying condition noted, during his absence. He then examined the carcasses and was able to pick out the best layers by simply choosing those which showed the most fat. Keep the hen busy, feed her all she will eat and she will make the best record possible.

THE ROOST MITE.

Roost mites are very common and troublesome. When they become numerous enough they not only infest the nests but other parts of the building, especially cracks and crevices, as well as the roosts. They are much like tiny spiders and are often called spider lice by poultrymen.

Mites are easily exterminated by applying kerosene to all infested parts of the building. They become numerous as soon as warm weather comes. As prevention is better than cure, it pays to paint your roosts once every four or six weeks in winter time and once every two weeks during the warm weather. You will probably never see a mite in a house so treated.

For average yields it has been estimated that it takes 400 tons of water to grow a clover crop; for corn it takes 350 tons; oats, 375 tons and potatoes, 450 tons.

Superior excellence of ancestry in the qualities sought is the only guarantee of the same qualities in the progeny.

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The Summer Season

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Build for eggs. You can do that.

COULSON'S EGG FOOD

Used during the summer will reward you with a good egg yield in the fall, the period when the poultry man must cash in if the year as a whole is to be a profitable one.

Secure it from any reliable poultry supply house.

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Chicks reared in the open air from the beginning are, as a rule, more hardy than those brought up like hot-house plants in warm rooms, and on board floors. They develop quicker and are less liable to disease—two very essential items in profitable poultry raising.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

KEEPING CUT FLOWERS.

Flowers keep best if cut early in the morning while they are fresh and crisp and before the sun has warmed them. If cut soon after opening, put in cool water and put in a cool dark place for a few hours or a day and they will keep much better when brought out to the light.

Fresh water should be given them daily and it is said by some that salt, saltpetre or soda added to the water will help preserve the flowers and brighten their colors.

Some of the best keepers are petunias, carnations, asters, gladioli, iris, delphiniums, etc.

Roses, poppies, some varieties of ferns, etc., fade quickly but may be improved and sometimes kept a long time by inserting the ends of the stem in boiling water or searing with a match.

Don't forget to keep your garden thoroughly cultivated. If you would conserve the ground moisture a soil mulch must be maintained.

Protect your cucumber and squash vines from the striped beetle and other troublesome pests with cones or frames made of screen wire or mosquito netting. Peg each cone down firmly at the bottom to prevent the wind from blowing it over.

Don't forget to plant a short row of endive, lettuce and radish every ten days so as to provide for a succession of these desirable vegetables. If the weather is dry plant the seed in very shallow drill rows and wet down thoroughly each drill row before planting and cover the seed lightly with soil after planting. With only a small planted area the watering can be done with an ordinary sprinkling can by hand and need not prove a laborious task.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of the National Grange will be held in Mechanics' Hall, Manchester, N. H., November 12. The executive committee has secured reduced railroad and hotel rates. Those desiring to make arrangements for room and board

early should address Harry W. Spaulding, 1008 Elm street, Manchester, N. H.

The lima bean crop of California is expected to be 10,000,000 pounds, one-tenth larger than last year.

THE FLOWER GARDEN IN AUGUST.

The wealth of bloom in August lulls the flower lover into forgetfulness of necessary preparations if he would enjoy some varieties of flowers at their best in early spring and perennials in summer and autumn.

Lovers of pansies should sow seeds this month so that the young plants will be well rooted when the cool winter months begin. This will insure larger flowers and a longer season of bloom.

Violet plants may be moved now. New beds prepared or old ones replanted as they become matted.

Plant now seeds of petunias, hollyhocks, delphiniums, foxgloves and Canterbury bells. The young petunia plants should have some protection where frost occurs. A good way is to cover a few inches above the lightly with earth.

COVERING PLANTS.

In resetting cabbage, tomatoes and sweet potatoes I notice the majority of people use tin cans, paper, etc., to shield them from the hot sun.

If you will cover the plants entirely with damp mellow dirt you will find it better and easier than any other method. If sun shines bright, cover the plants in the morning and uncover at night for three or four days.

I have used this method after plants were badly wilted and they seem to absorb the moisture from the damp soil and will grow finely. Pearl Mosher. In Oklahoma Farmer.

The Amaryllis.

If any one has an amaryllis she will find it will blossom more freely if the dirt is kept away from the top of the bulb. An amaryllis should have plenty of water.

HOME TREATMENT

Dust in the Eye.

(1) If a cinder or bit of dust gets into the eye do not rub the eyeball; that only irritates it. If the intruder is beneath the upper eyelid, lift the upper lid with the thumb and forefinger of the right hand, and with the forefinger of the left hand raise upward the under eyelid while you pull down over it the upper lid. This will seldom fail to remove the cinder, the soft skin and eyelashes taking it off without injuring the eyeball.

(2) A small camel's hair brush, dipped in water and passed over the ball of the eye on raising the lid. The operation requires no skill, takes but a moment, and instantly removes any cinder or particle of dust or dirt, without inflaming the eye.

(3) To remove specks of dirt from the eye, immerse it in cold water, then roll and wink rapidly, still keeping it in the water, till the desired result is accomplished. In cases of slight inflammation or dryness of the eye, this bath has a good effect. Use tepid, slightly salted water, instead of the cold.

(4) A celebrated oculist in Utrecht recommends, in all cases where dirt, lime or specks get into the eyes, that the sufferer have pure olive oil poured until everything of a hurtful nature is removed. The remedy is quite painless, and never fails to remove all foreign substances.

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To Stop Bleeding.

(1) If a man is wounded so that the blood flows, that flow is either regular or by jets or spurts. If it flows regularly, a vein has been wounded, and a string should be bound tightly around below the wounded part, that is, beyond it from the heart. If the blood comes out by leaps or jets, an artery has been severed, and the person who gave us this recipe few minutes; to prevent this apply the cord above the wound, that is, between the wound and the heart. In case a string or cord is not at hand, tie the two opposite corners of a handkerchief around the limb, put a stick between and turn it around until the handkerchief is twisted sufficiently tight to stop the bleeding, and keep it so until a physician can be had.

(2) It is said that bleeding from a wound, on man or beast, may be stopped by a mixture of wheat flour and common salt, in equal parts, bound on with a cloth. If the bleeding be profuse, use a large quantity, say from one to three pints. It may be left on for hours or even days, if necessary. The person who gave us this recipe says: "In this manner I saved the life of a horse which was bleeding from a wounded artery; the bleeding ceased in five minutes after the application."

(3) Blood may be made to cease to flow as follows: Take fine dust of tea and bind it close to the wound; at all times accessible and easily to be obtained. After the blood has ceased to flow, laudanum may be advantageously applied to the wound. Due regard to these instructions would save agitation of mind, and running for a surgeon, who would, probably, make no better prescription if he were present.

(4) Powdered rosin is the best thing to stop bleeding from cuts. After the powder is sprinkled on wrap the wound with a soft cotton cloth. As soon as the wound begins to feel feverish, keep the cloth wet with cold water.

(5) For internal bleeding put the patient in bed with the head slightly raised, keep the room cool, and give frequently a swallow of the coldest water or a pellet of ice.

(6) For bleeding, take linen or other rags, burn to a charcoal and put it in the wound, and no more blood will come.

(7) For bleeding at the cavity of an extracted tooth, pack the alveolus fully and firmly with cotton wet with alum water.

Pole beans need an especially rich and loamy soil. It must be warm soil, too.

Apricot Jam.

Making jam or marmalade out of fruit means the separation of the fruit pulp from the pits or seeds and skins and then properly sweetening and sometimes flavoring and canning for future use.

In the case of apricots only dead ripe fruit should be used. Wash the fruit. Then pit and take the halves before cooking, one at a time, between the ends of all the fingers of one hand and rub through the collander or other fruit screen until only the thin skin is left. This method saves more than half the labor in making jam.

The Matilija poppy is greatly admired by most flower lovers. As it is a native and requires little care it would seem appropriate in all California flower gardens.

Liver Fried as Cutlets.

One egg to one pound of liver; have the liver cut thin; scald; wipe dry with a towel; beat up the egg; dip the liver in the egg, then into powdered cracker; fry brown. This is very nice; serve with tomatoes, if preferred.

The improper pronunciation of the names of flowers is common and in many instances is excusable as the spelling does not indicate to the person of ordinary education what the pronunciation may be. In the case of the Matilija poppy the proper pronunciation is Mat-e-lee-ha, accenting the third syllable.

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